

Page A1

WASHINGTON POST

17 NOV 76

Ford to Meet Carter Here Next Week

By Robert G. Kaiser
Washington Post Staff Writer

President Ford will meet with the man who turned him out of office in the White House early next week, Ford's press secretary announced yesterday.

President-elect Jimmy Carter will make his first visit to Washington since his election to meet with Ford and take a direct hand in transition planning here for his administration. It will be the first meeting between Ford and Carter since their third televised debate in late October.

Carter's office in Plains, Ga., announced yesterday that the President-elect will meet Saturday in Plains with Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger, the man he accused during the campaign of running a "lone ranger" foreign policy. Vice-President-elect Walter F. Mondale also is scheduled to take part in the meeting.

No time or agenda was announced for the Ford-Carter meeting, but it is expected to take place Monday or Tuesday. Ron Nessen, the President's press secretary, said the two agreed to meet during a 7-minute telephone conversation Monday evening. Pressed for a characterization of their talk, Nessen said it was cordial and businesslike.

According to Rex Granum, assistant Carter press secretary, Carter called the President to ask permission to see his Cabinet members. The subject of their own face-to-face meeting came up during the conversation, Granum said.

Though the tempo of transition activities appeared to pick up yesterday, the staff that will handle much of the work for the President-elect is still not fully organized or installed in its new quarters in the Department of Health, Education and Welfare.

Yesterday employees working on

FORD, From A1

the transition there met with a representative of the General Services Administration to hear about government insurance programs and the availability of parking places, among other matters. Carter has not yet named the people who will represent him in most of the domestic agencies during the transition.

The President-elect's designated representative at the State Department, W. Anthony Lake, held his first meeting there yesterday with Lawrence S. Eagleburger, deputy under secretary of state and the man Kissinger has designated to handle the transition. Lake is set to move into a State Department office later this week.

Carter has a busy schedule for the days ahead. Today he is to meet with about 15 members of Congress at the Lovejoy, Ga., home of Sen. Herman E. Talmadge (D-Ga.). On Friday Carter and Mondale will be given a full briefing by officials of the Central Intelligence Agency and on Saturday they will meet with Kissinger. Then next

week Carter will come to Washington.

When Mondale arrived at the Albany, Ga., airport yesterday, he told reporters that one of the new administration's chief objectives is "going to be to try to restore a cooperative, respectful relationship between the President and the Congress."

He said he thought there was a "great restiveness" in Congress for welfare reform and changes in the tax system as well as "tremendous support" for reorganization of the executive branch.

"It's one thing to say we agree on reorganization. It's another to work out the details," he added.

"We've had several years of what I call deadlocked government in which there has been suspicion and lack of cooperation between the President and the Congress, and that's cost the country a great deal."

Mondale said he envisioned his role during the transition "mainly as an adviser," particularly on Cabinet appointments and substantive policy matters.

Asked about Carter's suggestion Monday that the country may have to

tolerate an unemployment rate of 5 per cent or more through much of his four-year term, Mondale said he thought Carter's objective is to achieve full employment but with the realization that "it's going to take some time to move in a responsible way toward fuller and then full employment."

Meanwhile, Ford went back to work at the White House yesterday after a nine-day California vacation. He met with senior aides in the afternoon to discuss the new federal budget, which by law his administration must submit in January, though it is likely to be quickly superseded by a Carter administration budget.

Nessen said the President had gotten no further in his thinking about post-White House plans and that he would continue "looking and listening" in the days ahead.

Ford will spend Saturday evening and Sunday at the Westchester County, N.Y., estate of Vice President Rockefeller, Nessen announced. On Sunday Ford will take part in a private ceremony at which Rockefeller will formally turn over the Pocantico Hills estate to the National Park Service as a historic monument.

Nessen said the Ford family plans to spend Christmas in Vail, Colo.

After the daily briefing at the White House, Nessen got into a shouting argument with several reporters talking with Jody Powell, Carter's press secretary, outside Nessen's office. Powell spent yesterday visiting the White House and talking with the man he will replace Jan. 20.

Nessen apparently lost his temper when he found several reporters chatting with Powell outside Nessen's office on the second floor of the West Wing, and he told them to leave in strong language.

Earlier Powell had declined an invitation from reporters to take part in the regular White House news briefing.

The White House announced yesterday that Ford had accepted the resignation of William B. Saxbe as ambassador to India, effective Jan. 9. Saxbe, a former senator and Attorney General, will return to private law practice in Ohio.